

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY: East Germany

DATE DISTR: 11 January 1955

SUBJECT: Sea Police Exercises

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ACQUIRED:NO. OF ENCLS
LISTED BELOW:DATE OF
INFO:SUPPLEMENT
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. On 18 September 1954 it was learned that sea police exercises were to begin on 21 September. As Forvettenkapitein Schmidt stated, the situation assumed as a basis for the exercises was that a blue enemy attacked Ruegen Island and that Seekydrographischer Dienst (Maritime Hydrographical Service) (SHD) belonged to the defending red party. One observer knew from his own experience that the various SHD branches had prepared operation plans.

2. Section III (vessels) of the SHD had prepared a plan containing the names and technical data of seven SHD vessels and the initial positions to be taken at the beginning of the exercises on 21 September 1954:

BOHAIN L. KREUZER at anchor off Saenholm Island
 COMETA alongside the Northern Pole in Stralsund
 KASIMIRLOFF moored in Stralsund harbor
 GUNDE moored off Sassnitz harbor
 ARIFWA alongside the Northern Pole in Sassnitz harbor
 HYDROGRAPH at anchor in the Peene River off Knechtlin

Motor launch [redacted] in Stralsund harbor, dispatch vessel

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It was assumed that no orders for the SHD vessels had been prepared by Section II. On 18 September 1954, the crews of the 7 SHD vessels were again expressly ordered to keep strict secrecy. Section III also had received orders to choose the vessels to be employed for the exercises on the basis of the political reliability of their crews. In practice, however, the ships were detailed only according to their technical suitability. All SHD officers participated in the exercises.

3.

[redacted] possibly participated in the exercises. The UNKST THA MEYER probably did not take part in the exercises because her boiler repairs were not expected to be completed until late in September 1954.

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4. It was learned from Lieutenant (Ing) Fritsche (fnu), engineer officer of the DELPHIN boat group, that Soviet naval, military and air force units were originally scheduled to participate in the exercises, but that their participation was cancelled because of the forthcoming elections in October. This statement was later confirmed by Unterleutnant Koester (fnu), CO of DELPHINE [redacted]. Lieutenant Fritsche also stated that the exercises included convoy sailing, crew drill in case of torpedo hits and landing exercises.

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5. On 11 September 1954, a teleprinter message from Kapitän Wachsmann of the technical staff of Main Shipping Administration in Stralsund was received at Berlin Shipbuilding Yard indicating that nine DELPHIN boats were out of order and that, under the one-year guarantee, the necessary repair work had to be carried out forthwith. On 13 September, three engine fitters were sent to Stralsund in a taxi. On 18 September, they reported that, with the exception of one boat, all DELPHINS were again ready for use.

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Comment. DELPHINS [redacted] were assigned to the Stralsund-Parow training group. In contradiction to the statement in paragraph 3, only eleven DELPHIN boats appeared to have participated in the exercises.

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3. The sea police exercises beginning on 20 September were scheduled to last about two weeks. The vessels participating in the exercises included [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] DELPHIN boats [redacted] TUEMLER boats [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] (store ship), [redacted] UNCODED (tanker), [redacted] 25X1
- (ex FUERSTENBERG) [redacted] (ex PRENZLAU). An additional number of vessels 25X1
- possibly participated in the exercises. The ERNST THAELMANN probably did 25X1
- not take part in the exercises because her hull repairs were not expected 25X1
- to be completed until late in September 1964. 25X1

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